GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2748
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
DIVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The ratio of working labourers in the Agriculture Sector against the total work force in the country;

(b) Whether any plan of action has been drawn out to divert the unemployed and under employed workforce from pure agriculture to other areas/sectors; and

(c) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken to implement it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) : Estimates of employment & unemployment are obtained through quinquennial Labour force surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Last such survey for which results are available pertain to the year 1999-2000. As per this survey, percentage of work force in the agriculture sector against the total labour force in the country on usual status basis was around 60% during 1999-2000.

(b) & (c): The strategy of the Government during the 10th Plan was to target around 8% growth per annum. This was projected to be achieved through comparatively more economic growth in the industrial and services sector compared to agricultural sector. This may lead to absorption of excess labour of agriculture sector by non agriculture sectors.